September 22, 2010

To: New Jersey Conservation Foundation

The Nature Conservancy

Hunterdon Land Trust Alliance

Monmouth Conservation Foundation

D & R Greenway

The Land Conservancy of New Jersey

Ridge & Valley Conservancy

Phillipsburg Riverview Organization

South Jersey Land & Water Trust

Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space

Upper Raritan Watershed Association

Trust for Public Lands

Center for Nonprofit Corporation

CADB Administrators

From: Susan E. Craft, Executive Director

Re: Farmland Preservation Program

FY2011 Nonprofit Grant Application

Enclosed is a copy of the Notice of Availability of Grant Funds and Deadline that will be published in the New Jersey Register on September 20, 2010. The State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) has allocated a minimum of \$8.2 million to the FY2011 Nonprofit round. Individual applications for specific farms must be submitted to the SADC by 5 p.m. on December 20, 2010.

Sum E.

Each individual application must include a complete application form (copy enclosed and also available at

www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/farmpreserve/programs/nonprofitapp.doc). You will notice we have updated the application form to more fully solicit details needed to evaluate a farm's eligibility and quality score. Please be sure to thoroughly complete each application form. SADC staff are available by phone, email and for in-person meetings as needed to assist you.

As with the last Nonprofit funding round, if you are submitting more than one individual farm application, the SADC must prioritize them in quality score order pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-12.2 (b). We ask that you prioritize your applications in this rank order as well. If you need to proceed with lower-ranked farms on your list, you will be asked to demonstrate that higher-ranked applications are not active at that time and to detail efforts made to preserve the higher-ranked farm.

As you know, the Governor has signed into law P.L. 2010, c. 70, which extends the dual-appraisal provision that allows for the appraisal of farms based not just on current conditions but also on zoning and environmental regulations in place as of January 1, 2004 (pre-Highlands Act). This law applies only to farms in the Highlands region and extends the dual-appraisal provision through June 30, 2014.

The SADC anticipates it will make a determination of which projects will receive funding by April 1, 2011.

As always, we strongly encourage all nonprofits to meet with SADC staff to review your applications prior to submission. Such meetings are imperative for nonprofits with outstanding balances from prior rounds, so that you can document plans to expend those funds.

This fall, prior to the December 20, 2010 deadline, SADC staff will conduct a nonprofit workshop for general discussion and to answer questions. We will advise you of the date and location. However, we also welcome smaller work sessions between nonprofit partners and SADC staff, so please do not hesitate to request a one-on-one meeting.

If you have any process-related questions, please contact Dan Knox, Nonprofit Program Manager, or Heidi Winzinger, Chief of Acquisitions, at (609) 984-2504 or via email at daniel.knox@ag.state.nj.us or heidi.winzinger@ag.state.nj.us.

Enclosures

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